



Winter 2011

CTBL News

Colorado Talking Book Library • Denver

Highlighting—Changes to Book Delivery

Now that the digital machine transition is complete and the library has about 30,000 digital audio books, we are changing the way patrons receive their cassettes. If you receive cassette books either monthly or weekly, you will now receive your books the same way you are receiving your digital cartridges, on a turnaround service. Book limits will be set according to the quantity of books you read.

Consider the turnaround option as a way to customize your loan period. If you read books quickly, then you are returning them faster and getting more books. If you read books more slowly, then you have them for longer and are reading fewer books. This method also helps with receiving lots of shorter or longer books and helps with not having enough or too many books at one time.

With this system you really need to send books back after you have finished them and not save them up to send back in batches. If this becomes a problem, please call a reader advisor.

Reminder notices will still be sent after you have had material checked out for three months. By that time you may not want to

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www.myctbl.org

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read the books that have been sitting around. Please do keep in mind that the library only has a specific number of copies per title and that generally popular titles have wait lists. So timely reading is always encouraged.

From the Director

Many people have been asking what is going to happen to the players and cassette collection when they are no longer used. Remember, this technology is at the end of its useful life after forty plus years of service. The machines are breaking down faster and there are fewer parts to make repairs. The tape is stretching and breaking on older books and the sound quality is being compromised. Also, blank cassette tape is just about not available anymore. So the multi-state centers will fill in their RC collections and have back-up players but most of the collection will probably be recycled. It is all federal property and NLS is responsible for making all the decisions related to this collection as they have done in every other technology transition.

Debbi

**CTBL will be closed on the following days in 2011:
January 17th, February 21st, and May 30th**

Outreach

CTBL visited many support groups and was represented at many low vision fairs in Colorado Springs, Estes Park, and Denver. Debbi presented at the Southwest Library Region meeting in Durango, and the combined national meeting of the Association of Rural & Small Libraries and the Association of Bookmobile & Outreach Librarians. She also spoke at the NFB State Convention.

Reader Advisors—

We have recently made a change to the **web-based catalog**, at www.myctbl.org. Previously, search results were set to default to books in English. Now your searches will automatically yield books in any language. If you want only books in a certain language, you can set that limit by using the Search Options box on the search screen. Go to Language, click the down arrow, and select the language that you want.

As a reminder: Newsletters or any material sent to a patron on cartridge counts as a book. So please return all material in a timely manner so that more books can be sent to you.

Audio & Large Print Combinations

These two collections are distinct collections. Our system does not automatically send one title in both formats. Patrons may request both the audio and large print version of a book if we have the title in both formats. You must specifically make the request with a reader advisor. Please be aware that the audio and print are not necessarily the same edition and can vary slightly when reading word for word.

Tech Talk—CDesk For Media

For those of you that have difficulty in download books from BARD, unzipping the files, and transferring them to a USB device, this software might be the answer to your problems. The software firm, AdaptiveVoice, has released a new product named CDesk For Media. This product is designed to allow low-vision and blind clients to easily download books and periodicals from BARD in **three simple steps**:

- 1) Enter the book title or author
- 2) Choose from the vocalized results list
- 3) Press ALT + G to start the download process

The CDesk For Media software will log into BARD, find the books or content, download the content, and decompress the downloaded content onto your USB storage drive or Victor Reader device. The software will also work with Bookshare and can search both Bookshare and BARD at the same time for a title or author you're interested in finding.

For more information on CDesk For Media, visit their website at <http://www.cdeskforbooks.com/>. Or visit the main AdaptiveVoice website at <http://www.adaptivevoice.com> to see other products offered by the company.

Firmware updates for your playback machine have been sent to you on a cartridge containing the fall issue of *CTBL News*. Even if you received the newsletter in large print, you received it in this additional format so that we could get all the players updated in a timely fashion and let patrons know the newsletter is available in audio format.

BARD Update—Online Book Club

Need a suggestion for a good book to read? There is a national online mailing list created for BARD users to share reviews of books they've recently read. The reviews are only for books that are available on the BARD website. Every fall the group agrees on a classic book to read together. If you are interested in participating in this group either visit their website at http://emissives.com/mailman/listinfo/db-review_emissives.com or send an email with the subject or body message 'help' to db-review-request@emissives.com.

Upcoming Events of Interest

"Did you lose sight of what you hear?" Be part of discovering the resources and peer supportive services at the first meeting for Seniors experiencing low-vision/blindness and also struggling with hearing loss. Our first meeting will be January 15, 2011 in Denver.

Maureen McGowan with the Helen Keller National Center will moderate the meeting.

For information, contact Diane McGeorge at 303-321-4268 or rmcgeorge@comcast.net or Karen Norton at 970-581-5695. Limited transportation from Northern Colorado will be available on a first-come, first served basis. Call to RSVP, 970-581-5695.

Calling all providers for Vision Related Services. A newly formed **"Coalition of Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired"** is developing a statewide resource directory. Watch for an exciting new website where consumers, referring professionals and vision

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resource/service providers can one-stop shop for a comprehensive overview of who's who in Colorado.

Want more information? Contact Ms. Denny Moyer at 970-407-9999 or Barbara Boyer at barbara.boyer@acbco.org for new information and the January 17, 2011 meeting. Let's put Colorado on the map for innovation and outreach for the visually impaired of Colorado.

9Health Fair—Colorado Talking Book Library Tuesday April 12th, from 7 a.m. until noon. Special attention will be available for people with print disabilities such as help filling out the application and escorts through the building.

Other 9Health Fairs are held around the state—call the library in April for help finding one near you.

Resources of Interest

Are you a veteran experiencing sight loss? Call the VA's Visual Impairment Coordinator.

Veterans Administration has services that can help you deal with problems related to loss of vision. All U.S. military veterans, whether they service during war or peace, whether service-connected or non service-connected may be eligible for services.

The Visual Impairment Service Outpatient Rehabilitation (VISOR) Program is available to veterans with severe visual impairments. The VISOR Program offers training programs spread out over several visits, ten-day intensive training, and home and community-based training.

For additional information about the VA Low Vision/ Blind Services available please contact Pamela Newton, M.A. Visual Impairment Services Coordinator, at 303-399-8020 ext. 3040 or toll free 1-888 336-8262 ext. 3040

Live in Colorado Springs and looking for a senior living community? The Inn at Garden Plaza offers **low-vision-enhanced apartments** for independent living. They are the first facility in the nation to offer such adaptation. For more information contact JJ Jones at 719-630-1155.

Traveling with your new digital machine? There is now a soft form-fitted case available for purchase. It protects the player, has space for three cartridges and makes for easy carrying. It is selling for \$39.95. For more information call 818-833-8822. **Note: This is not a toll free number.** It is also available online from Perkins Products at www.perkinsproducts.org. In the left hand column, scroll down and click on "Talking Book Accessories." Then scroll down to "Executive NLS/BPH Carrying Case."

Advocacy for CTBL

Given the current economic climate and the state's budget situation, the Board of the Friends invite you to call your state legislator to tell them about the Colorado Talking Book Library and let them know how much the library's services mean to you. If you need their name or phone number, the reader advisors can give that information to you when you call the library. Please do not send letters to CTBL.

Volunteer News—Star Volunteers!

On December 4th CTBL held our annual Volunteer Appreciation Brunch at the Lakewood Country Club. It was a very special day to honor the many stars in our volunteer program.

Five years: Nancy Crandall, Jim Foster, Robert Herrin, Clarence Lederhos, Morris Meese, Dorothy Nelson, Jim Osse, and Ellen Ranson

Ten years: Evelyn Dosch, Carl Dreher, Cathy Gloeckner, Joan and Bob Levy, Kay Lundin, Bob McConaughy, and Carri Peterson

Mary Rossi received her **fifteen-year** award and we honored George Fisher for **twenty years** of volunteering through the Qwest Pioneers to repair talking book machines.

Morris Brown received the "Silver Star Award" for **twenty-five years** of dedication to CTBL as a studio volunteer. He has reviewed hundreds of hours of books narrated in our volunteer studio, serving as one of the "silent-partners" who ensure the quality of our recorded material.

The highlight of the day was the reading of a proclamation from Governor Ritter declaring December 4, 2010 "Norma Sierota Day" to celebrate the more than **thirty years** Norma has dedicated to narrating books for CTBL patrons.

Norma first auditioned to be a narrator in January 1980. Soon she was recording regularly with Marvin Mintz as her monitor. Norma has also volunteered her talents with the Radio Reading Service of the Rockies where she regularly read the *Rocky Mountain News*. As a member of the National Council of Jewish Women, she has worked with the Children's Traveling Theatre making books come alive for

local children. Currently, she is the “Wicked Witch of the West” in their production of “The Wizard of Oz.” Norma can also be seen on the Animal Planet’s program, “Fatal Attraction—Don’t Feed the Bears” as the lead character, Donna Munson.

It is a pleasure to celebrate such a talented and giving person. Norma Sierota, you are our Star Volunteer!

Collection News— Suggestions from New Additions

Suggestions from the hundreds of Large Print books (these titles are not in audio format):

PR018920

Valley Forge: George Washington and the Crucible of Victory
Author: Newt Gingrich

It’s the winter of 1777, and Washington’s battered, demoralized army retreats from Philadelphia. Arriving at Valley Forge, they discover that their repeated requests for a stockpile of food, winter clothing, and building tools have been ignored by Congress. With no other options available, the men settle down for a season of agony in the bitter cold. Valley Forge is a tour-de-force about endurance, survival, transformation, and rebirth. (Fiction)

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PR018717

The Vigilantes Author: W.E.B. Griffin

No one seems to mind a sudden rash of murders, as the victims are street thugs and lowlifes, but Matt Payne's investigation suggests that they are perhaps being whacked by professionals, maybe even foreign professionals. Then vigilantes groups start taking credit for the hits and the mayor creates a task force, headed up by Payne. But when a Crimes Against Humanity hit list, targeting Philly's business and civic leaders, begins circulating, Payne and his colleagues must figure out who is responsible before violence overtakes them all. (Fiction)

PR018740

703: How I lost more than a quarter ton and gained a life.

Author: Madeline Wickham

At 703 Pounds, Nancy Makin's weight trapped her in her apartment for more than a decade. She was horribly ill and should have died, but she's one of the few who beat the odds. Find out how, without any diet, pills, or weight-loss surgery, she became a living, breathing miracle. (Non-Fiction)

PR018760

Crossfire Author: Dick Francis

After losing his foot during an explosion in Afghanistan, British captain Tom Forsyth returns home to Berkshire only to discover

that someone is blackmailing his mother, Josephine Kauri, a famous horse trainer. Tom investigates to find the culprits. Some violence and some strong language. 2010. (Fiction)

Suggestions from the Colorado Collection:

CC/DC 8241

Smaldone: The Untold Story of an American Crime Family

Author: Dick Kreck ** Narrator: Maurice Devany

Clyde Smaldone was the head of Denver's crime family for forty years, from the years of Prohibition to the Colorado mob wars of the 1970s. This biography portrays him not only as a criminal mastermind with his fingers in booze-running, gambling, and loan-sharking, but also as a devoted family man who gave generously to his community, helping families in need. It was written with the cooperation of the Smaldone family.

DC8228

Mudbound

Author: Hillary Jordan ** Narrator: Ellen Ranson

As a family who have moved from the city to a Mississippi cotton farm struggle, the husband's brother returns from World War II along with the eldest son of sharecroppers, now a hero. The unlikely friendship of these two men arouses passions in others and reveals how everyone becomes a player in tragedy, even as they strive for love and honor.

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From the Colorado Collection (continued):

CC/DC8246

The Fred Factor: How Passion in Your Work and Life Can Turn the Ordinary Into the Extraordinary

Author: Mark Sanborn ** Narrator: Tim Englert

This book explains how each of us can transform our lives from the ordinary into the extraordinary. Fred, a mail carrier, takes special interest in each of the persons on his route, going the extra mile to give them service and even watching over their houses. True-life stories about Fred and others like him reveal four principles that can help bring fresh energy and creativity to your life and work: how to make a real difference every day, how to become more successful by building strong relationships, how to create real value for others without spending a penny, and how to constantly reinvent yourself.

DC8237

High Altitude Attitudes: Six Savvy Colorado Women

Author: Marilyn Griggs Riley ** Narrator: Stephanie Briggs

This book profiles six little-known women who exerted a significant impact on Denver and Colorado between 1900 and 1970. Louise Sneed Hill was a society matron; Justina L. Ford was a pioneering physician; May Bonfils Stanton and Helen Gilmer Bonfils were daughters of the cofounder of the *Denver Post*; Caroline Bancroft wrote numerous booklets about colorful Colorado characters; and Mary Coyle Chase won Colorado's first Pulitzer prize, for her play "Harvey."

DC8239

Beneath a Marble Sky

Author: John Shors ** Narrator: Cathy Gloeckner

India, 1632. The grieving Shah Jahan, Emperor of Hindustan, decides to build a grand mausoleum in memory of his beloved wife, now deceased. His daughter Jahanara becomes the court liaison to Isa, the architect of the Taj Mahal. Jahanara soon finds herself caught among competing forces: her duty to her mother's memory; society's rigid strictures against women; family conflicts; a forbidden love; and a threat to the Islamic enlightenment of the Mughal Empire.

DC8251

Captain Underpants and the Wrath of the Wicked Wedgie Woman

Author: Dav Pilkey ** Narrator: Mo Devany

George and Harold have created a monster! She's faster, smarter, and more evil than anything the world has seen before—she's Wedgie Woman! With the help of her horrible robots and her horrendous hairdo, Wedgie Woman is on a mission to take over the world, and she'll give a whopping wedgie to anyone who stands in her way—including Captain Underpants. For grades 2 to 4.

CC/DC 8095

Lincoln: The Road to War

Author: Frank Van der Linden ** Narrator: Tim Englert

This book is based on the premise that the Civil War was not inevitable and that it could have been prevented. The author states that if Lincoln had left the seven original seceded states alone,

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From the Colorado Collection (continued):

no other southern states would have supported them, and that neither the Union nor Europe would have recognized them. According to the author, the Confederacy was too weak to survive for long by itself, and slavery was already an anachronism. Instead, Lincoln believed that the Union must be preserved at all costs. His pride prevented him from appearing weak and yielding to the South. Had he done so, the author poses that the ultimate result would have been the same—an end to slavery and a stronger federal government—without the horrors of four years of war.

CC/DC 8230

Horace Tabor: His Life and the Legend

Duane A. Smith ** Narrator: Norm Jones

A portrait of the Leadville silver tycoon who is known for his romantic escapades as well as his Little Pittsburg and Matchless mines. A businessman and political activist, Tabor achieved notoriety when he abandoned his respectable marriage to Augusta Pierce and took up with Elizabeth McCourt "Baby Doe." He was a complex man who could be friendly, naïve, and sentimental as well as devious and cruel.

Contributions to The Friends of the Colorado Talking Book Library and The Colorado Talking Book Library

An additional way to contribute to either the Friends or to CTBL is through a charitable bequest as part of a will or through life insurance. You do not have to rewrite your current document but can add a written amendment called a codicil. Such a bequest only becomes irrevocable at your death. Giving to the library helps support the programs and service we provide to our patrons and helps to secure the future.

How to Reach Us:

303-727-9277—metro Denver
1-800-685-2136—outside Denver
www.myctbl.org

- Robert Hammond,
Acting Commissioner
- Eugene Hainer, State Librarian
- Debbi MacLeod, Director, CTBL

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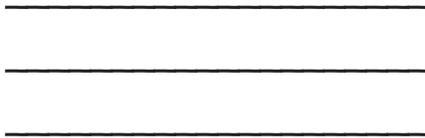
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Free Matter for the
Blind & Handicapped



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